## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
NOBUYOSHI KAKIGI	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned	)	
(This is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application	:	
No. 09/755,171, filed January 8, 2001, allowed	)	
December 10, 2003; which is a divisional of	:	
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/149,055, filed	)	
September 9, 1998, now U.S. Patent No.	:	
6,422,557 B1, issued July 23, 2002.)	)	
•	:	
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	)	
•	:	
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS	)	February 26, 2004
HAVING A PLURALITY OF SHEET	:	
STACKING MEANS	)	

Mail Stop Patent Application COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND SUBMISSION OF SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended in the following manner:

## IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title to read as follows:

--IMAGE FORMING <u>METHOD WITH STACKING CONTROL</u>

<del>APPARATUS HAVING A PLURALITY OF SHEET STACKING MEANS</del>---